



MOAPA BAND OF PAIUTES

Moapa River Indian Reservation

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January 4, 2013

Desert Southwest Customer Service Regional
Office, Western Area Power
Administration, 615 South 43rd
Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85005

Dear Western Area Power Administration:

This public comment is written in response to your notice in the Federal Register/Vol. 77, No. 210/Tuesday, October 30, 2012 /Notices. The Moapa Band of Paiutes has a strong interest in becoming a contract allottee in the Boulder Canyon Project—Post-2017 Resource Pool. As federally recognized Native Tribe, Moapa Band of Paiutes respectfully requests that the proposed marketing criteria not eliminate or minimize the priority preference for Native American Tribes. Moapa is an eligible Native American applicant must be an Indian tribe as defined in the Indian Self Determination Act of 1975, 25 U.S.C. 450b, as amended.

Obviously, there are a plethora of cultural and historical reasons why the Moapa Band of Paiutes would appreciate rekindling its use of the Colorado River waters. However, our new and modern interest in this allocation is due to our growth and development. The Moapa Band of Paiutes is in the process of developing projects on the reservation that requires energy. Unbeknownst to many, the Moapa Band of Paiutes as of 2013 does not have electricity at all of its properties and relies on generators for power. The Moapa Band of Paiute's principal method of economic survival is an 18,000 sq ft Travel Plaza off of exit 75 and Interstate Highway 15 North that has not been provided a circuit. Unfortunately, anything less than making us a priority in receipt of the power allocation will likely result in another decade of struggling for power. We strongly believe the preference of Native American Federal Tribes is both proper and necessary. To even the playing field, Moapa Band of Paiutes requests WAPA to acknowledge the need for priority contracting.

Once Moapa Band of Paiutes receives its allocation of hydropower, it will be in a position to provide power to all of the projects and outlets on the 70,000 acres of reservation. Although Moapa Band of Paiutes will rely on a partner to transmit and service the delivery of power, it will benefit from the availability in significant ways. First, power would allow us to serve the millions of tourist that stop at our Travel Plaza on Exit 75 Valley of Fire in a manner that is safer and

more efficient than generators. Secondly, the allocation will allow us to provide electricity to our reservation administration building, law enforcement, Headstart, health clinic, housing and other facilities that require energy 24/7.

Of great significance, Moapa Band of Paiutes will also need the energy resources to provide our emerging new developments that, at this time, include two solar energy plants, a wind energy farm, green houses, farms, mulching facility, recycling grounds, new master planned home development, multipurpose community center, cement plant, sand & gravel company, industrial park, RV park, cultural center, casino and amusement water park. For these reasons we ask WAPA to reconsider expanding the language of G.


Western will base allocations to Native American tribes on actual loads experienced in the most recent calendar year. Western may use estimated load values if actual load data is not available. Western will evaluate and may adjust inconsistent estimates during the allocation process. Western is available to assist tribes in developing load estimates; and, H Western will base allocations to eligible applicants on the actual loads experienced in the most recent calendar year and will apply current marketing criteria to these loads.

To include estimates on projects that are planned and approved by the Moapa Business Council in fiscal year 2017 and earlier.

All of our plans for future development and economic viability require energy. Please, do not allow your first criteria to be changed because of arguments premised on selfish special interests. The Moapa Band of Paiutes is uniquely situated to benefit from this Hoover Dam allocation. We have waited hundreds of years to improve our opportunities and would appreciate the respect and courtesy of using for our own benefit what was taken from us without consent.

In advance, we thank you for your consideration. Please retain as is the Proposed Post-2017 Resource Pool Marketing Criteria. In determine where Western will give priority consideration in the following order to entities satisfying these marketing criteria. Federally recognized Native American tribes, 2. Other parties

Sincerely,



William Anderson
Tribal Chairman
Moapa Band of Paiutes